November 28, 1963
3:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR EASTLAND (from Senator Eastland)

LBJ: Senator...this is your birthday and I just wanted to call and wish you many happy returns of the day and wish you were here where I could help you celebrate it.

JE: Well, thank you. My wife's too.

LBJ Well, good God...let me talk to her...is she there ?.....
Your weather good down there?

JE: No. It is raining.

LBJ: Well, I'll be darned...we need some over in our country. It has been mighty dry.

Mrs. E: Hello!

LBJ: Mrs. Eastland..Happy Birthday! I just noticed that you and Jim had a birthday and I wanted to call you up and say "Many happy returns of thd day...wish you everything that is good in life..

Mrs.E: Thank you so much, Mr. President. That makes growing old a pleasure! Appreciate your thinking of us.

LBJ: Well fine. I hope I'm going to be seeing you up here before long.

Mrs E: We will be back, of course, whenever we need to be back.

LBJ: Well good. I'll tell Lady Bird I talked to you. She's not here but she..

Mrs E: Give her my best regards.

LBJ: She'll miss seeing you...Jim?

JE: Yes sir.

LBJ: I'm mighty glad to hear your voice and give me a ring when you get back, fellow.

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JE: I got your letter...to Stennis and me about returning these boys patronage..

LBJ: All right. Well let me see it, I haven't seen it..but if you got it.. send it to me?

JE: Yes, we'll send it to you..think it was sent, though, day before yesterday.

LBJ: Talks to Walter Jenkins and says "Walter, look for a letter from Senator Eastland and Senator Stennis"....now what is the situation?

JE: Congressman...they took their patronage away from them in 1960 and we both think it ought to be returned....they took Whitley's patronage..when he.... Whitley didn't do a thing but stall..you know a lot of times a man will ride both sides...did that and Bonnet got on television and put his own opinion of what Whitley said which wasn't it at all..

LBJ Laughter...kind of got him on the spot.

JE: Yes...politics. Have to make a lot...

LBJ: Yes...yes...yes, we do. All of us you know get off base once in a while and then sometimes other people get off base for us..don't they? I'll look into it Jim, I haven't seen it but I'll ask them to get me the letter and I'll talk to you when you get back.

JE: That's fine.

LBJ: Bye

JE: And many thanks.

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